

prove itself capable of governing a functioning democratic society, free from terrorism and focused on improving the lives of its citizens, or will it squander yet another opportunity? After leaving Gaza, Israel will no longer provide an easy excuse for Palestinian failure.

The rock-solid, principled and bipartisan support for Israel in the United States has been vital to our ability to overcome terrorism and prepare the ground for a political initiative. The notion of disengagement would have been unthinkable had Israel not prevailed in the latest round of sustained terrorism waged by the Palestinians since September 2000.

The stakes for Israel are enormous. We are a strong but small country facing a largely hostile region roughly 500 times our size. We can ill afford to make mistakes. Iran's nuclear weapons program is imminent, posing an existential threat. Syria and Iran promote and support Palestinian terrorist groups sworn to our destruction. Hezbollah has intensified terrorist attacks against Israel from Lebanon, opening a second front aimed at derailing any progress. Despite these challenges, Israel has shown it is prepared to take difficult steps to achieve President Bush's vision for peace in the Middle East. The world should insist on no less from the Palestinians.

The writer is Israel's ambassador to the United States.

TRIBUTE TO PAUL EDWARD HUGHES

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2005

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Paul Edward "Ed" Hughes who died Sunday, July 17, 2005, at his home in Sunset Beach, North Carolina.

Mr. Hughes, who retired to Sunset Beach in 1992, was serving his third term on the Sunset Beach City Council. He was born in Pennsboro, West Virginia in 1926 to John and Mary Hughes, and grew up in Baltimore, Maryland. Ed served in the Army Air Corps during the Second World War and later graduated from Loyola College, where he was named an All-American in lacrosse, playing on the All-South team in 1948 and 1949. He later received his master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

Ed Hughes moved to Wilmington, Delaware in 1958, where he taught at Tower Hill School for 34 years, chaired the History Department and served as Dean. Over the course of his tenure he introduced anthropology to the school curriculum and headed the summer school program. He wrote a book about his founding of the Junior Humanities program for gifted inner-city students, a model project for which he received the Hollingworth Award. He was a head basketball coach for 14 years, coached football, and started the golf team.

Ed Hughes was a candidate for President of the City Council in Wilmington, Delaware and chaired the Republican City Committee. He was a frequent lecturer on current events and world affairs at Crosslands in Kennett Square, Pennsylvania and was a longtime manager of the Hagley Museum on the Brandywine River. He was a devoted husband, a proud father of five, a golfer, and in later life, a painter. He loved crossword puzzles, his golfing buddies and a good steak.

Ed Hughes is survived by his wife of 54 years, Jody Hughes, his daughters Mary and K.C. Halpern, his sons Paul, John and Mark, as well as seven grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I had the pleasure of knowing Ed Hughes. He was a gentle man with a superb intellect and a wonderful wit. He was a man who was content with his life and achievements, most of all his magnificent children and theirs. Ed Hughes loved his family, his community and his country. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and works of this good man and in extending to his wife and entire family our most sincere sympathy.

USA PATRIOT AND TERRORISM PREVENTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 21, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3199) to extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism, and for other purposes:

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Chairman, in the wake of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, the United States Congress passed the USA PATRIOT Act with broad bipartisan support to better equip law enforcement and intelligence agencies in their struggle to combat terrorism. As the shock of those horrible events subsided, many from both political parties began to question some of the more invasive aspects of the Patriot Act, including a number of provisions that allow Federal investigators to enter homes, tap phone lines, and search library records without a warrant.

Since then, the Patriot Act has become a much-debated issue, symbolizing a Federal Government abusing its power and violating civil liberties for some, and a necessary bulwark against the barbarity of terrorists for others. And yet, all agree that the United States faces a daunting challenge in combating terrorism, both abroad and at home, through continuing efforts to safeguard borders, protect airports, and monitor centers of trade and commerce. In order to overcome these challenges, we must remain vigilant in our fight against terror and continue to strengthen our resolve even in the face of depraved and desperate acts such as the bombings that terrorized London this past week and a few short weeks ago.

The events in London provide a somber and revealing backdrop for the current debate regarding the renewal of a number of provisions contained in the USA PATRIOT Act. Many of my colleagues have voiced well-reasoned and thoughtful objections to the current bill, the USA Patriot and Terrorism Prevention Reauthorization Act of 2005, H.R. 3199, which would make permanent 14 of the 16 provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act. I share the concerns of my colleagues who fear that the proposed legislation will endanger the civil liberties of U.S. citizens and create the potential for abuse of Federal powers. Additionally, I am disturbed by the administration's lack of cooperation in providing detailed information re-

garding the effectiveness of the increased enforcement power contained in the Patriot Act. The members of the 9/11 Commission specifically directed the Bush administration to explain how the expanded powers of the Patriot Act "materially" enhance U.S. security. They also directed the administration to make certain that proper supervision was in place to monitor these enhanced powers. The administration has ignored these recommendations and showed a repeated willingness to place the acquisition of increased power above the common interest of individual citizens.

But as we deliberate over this bill, it is important to consider the ongoing fight against terrorism, so violently displayed in the terrorist bombings in London this past week. These attacks are a reminder that we remain susceptible to terrorism and must protect ourselves from continuing threats. While I have deep concerns regarding the effect of certain provisions of the Patriot Act on the civil rights of Americans, I strongly believe that we must not end this legislation but amend it. "Mend, don't end" should have been the guiding theme in redrafting and analyzing the Patriot Act.

We cannot let our partisan differences obscure our common fight against terrorism. We cannot let our very real concerns about the violation of civil liberties overwhelm our oath to protect the citizens of the United States from further terrorist activity. While I would have preferred a "mend don't end" strategy to reshaping the Patriot Act, the leadership chose a different tactic and brought the bill to the floor with the most disconcerting provisions included. In light of recent events, and our continued war on terrorism, I chose to stand on the side of law enforcement and the intelligence community and protect our country by voting for the Patriot Act reauthorization.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2005

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast rollcall votes 415 and 416 on July 22, 2005, because I was unavoidably detained on official business with President George W. Bush in Atlanta, Georgia, at a roundtable discussion on retirement security for future generations of Americans. I was also unable to cast rollcall votes 417, 418, and 419 on July 25, 2005, as I was traveling on official legislative/policy business. Had I been present I would have cast the following votes: On rollcall No. 415, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall No. 416, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 417, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 418, I would have voted "yes"; and on rollcall No. 419, I would have voted "yes."

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 26, 2005

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the distinguished Chairman of this